

Name:

What Are You Looking For In A College?

1. Size (Read each phrase below and check the most appropriate box in each):

A personal atmosphere is ☐ important ☐ relatively unimportant to me.

I want to be ☐ a participant ☐ more anonymous in my education.

I want my teachers to be easily accessible. Yes ☐ No ☐

☐ I do ☐ I don't mind being taught by graduate students.

☐ Smaller ☐ larger classes are best for my learning preferences.

2. Academic Offerings:

Some students aren't sure about what they want to study in college. They may enter college "undecided" and explore their options during their college years. Does this describe your current state of mind? ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Not Sure

Explain, if necessary:

Do you have a career goal in mind? ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Not Sure

Describe/explain:

What major do you intend to pursue?

3. Student Body Characteristics

Describe the types of students with whom you would enjoy going to school. List personal traits you hope to see in your classmates:

4. Location:

a. Do you want to be close to home? ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Not Sure

Explain:

b. Indicate any geographic areas that you particularly like. Try not to think of particular colleges within a given area, but rather places you would like to live. Why do you like these places?

c. Are there any particular areas of the country you'd like to avoid? Why?

d. Do you prefer a rural (country), suburban (city outskirts), or urban (city) setting? Explain.

5. Academic Challenge:

Think about how much academic challenge is appropriate for you. Do you want a college where you must work hard and study hard, or would you prefer one where you could earn respectable grades without feeling overwhelmed? Do you truly enjoy talking about ideas and intellectual subjects? What is your response to academic pressure and to competition from others? Check any appropriate phrases below:

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Intellectual/scholarly emphasis | <input type="checkbox"/> Ready for the most rigorous academic environment |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Academic/social balance | <input type="checkbox"/> Prefer academics similar in challenge to MSMCS |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Less academic, more social | <input type="checkbox"/> Prefer academics less challenging than MSMCS |

6. Cost/Financial Aid:

Check the statements that best describe your situation:

- ☐ Cost is a major factor in choosing a college.
- ☐ Cost is a minor factor.
- ☐ I will need to investigate financial aid options.
- ☐ Cost is not a significant factor; I may attend the best college for me regardless of cost.

Explain your cost concerns and describe communication you have had with your parents concerning college costs:

7. Activities available and other academic/curricular qualities:

Study abroad options, independent study, ROTC, varsity, intramural or spectator sports. (Be specific about sport and level.) Would you like the option of joining a fraternity or sorority? Are you looking for theater, art or music involvements? Are there other clubs or organizations you would enjoy joining? List any activities or interests below. Place an asterisk* next to the activities which are very important in your college search.

8. Fitting in/being comfortable in college:

If you were to visit a college tomorrow, what would you ask about or look for? Is campus beauty very important? What specific services would you like? Describe:

9. Are you sure that you want to go directly to college after graduating high school? If not, explain:

10. Please list any specific questions about planning for education, training, or careers after high school to discuss with Ms. Piatt in your junior planning meeting this spring?

11. Your ideal college:

Think about the most important factors for **you** (at this time) when selecting a college and write up to 6 statements summarizing what you are looking for in a college. Mark the most important factor(s) with asterisks.*

Example statements:

It is very important for me to have a balance between academics and social life. I don't want a pressure-cooker college!

I prefer a college in the Mid-West because my grandparents live in that area.

a.

b.

c.

d.

e.

f.

12. I have a strong interest in the following colleges:

